The Dorobo divide the year into two parts, *[illegible]*, the dry season, when they used to go hunting the bigger game with bow and arrow; and *[illegible]*, the wet season, when they set traps. Each season covers roughly half the year, the rain beginning to tail off in September and getting less and less till January, and then starting to work up again in March, reaching its peak about May; so that *[illegible]* comprises the months of October to March, and *[illegible]*, April to September. The Dorobo have twelve months, all but two having the same names as the Nandi months, but they do not synchronise[1].

Dorobo name:	Nandi name:		
[illegible]	*Kipsunde*	October	[illegible]
Kipsunde	*Kipsunde oieng*	November	
Kipsunde oie	*[illegible]*	December	
[illegible]	*[illegible]* (a)	January	
[illegible] (a)	*Kiptamo*	February	
Kiptamo	*Iwat kut*	March	
Iwat kut	*[illegible]*	April	[illegible]
[illegible]	*[illegible]* (a)	May	
[illegible]	*[illegible]*	June	
[illegible]	*[illegible]*	July	
[illegible]	*[illegible]*	August	
[illegible]	*[illegible]*	September	

The average rainfall at [illegible] Farm, about two miles below the edge of the forest for the years [illegible] to [illegible] was [illegible] inches, the maximum being [illegible], the minimum [illegible]. Details are given in the Appendix. In the forest itself I think the rainfall is considerably a little higher, perhaps amounting to another [illegible] ins. in the course of an average year.

The Dorobo seem to have a better weather sense than the Nandi, and I found that they were generally accurate when making a forecast, whereas the Nandi are usually wrong when they try to foretell the weather. This weather sense is perhaps one of the reasons for their reputation among other tribes as rainmakers; for these Dorobo not only say that they have no rainmakers, but I could find no trace whatever of rainmaking activities, nor any hint that they ever had any. Climatic conditions are such, however, that to a hunting economy rainmaking is not a necessity.

The environment of the Dorobo provides them with bark, skins, wood and other vegetable materials. Iron they had not, and they still have no knowledge of ironworking, though they use iron implements. Their activities comprised hunting, trapping, food-gathering, hut-building, the production of honey, and the making of objects of wood, leather, and grass, such as traps, arrow-shafts, boxes, honey-barrels, clothing, rope, baskets, and handles for tools. Objects of iron they have got for as far back as they can remember from the Nandi by exchange for such things as they can make or produce themselves.

---

[1] Throughout this paper I have written the [illegible] to represent the "[illegible]", [illegible].

[224] [241] [226] The year was divided, from the hunting point of view, into the dry season and the wet season. In the wet season people did not generally go out hunting, but stayed at home and set traps to catch antelopes and the like. In the dry season they hunted all sorts of game with bow and arrow in the forest and the plains. Thus, Arap Kitole told of how soon after he had been circumcised he was one of a hunting party that went into North Nandi, as far as the hills Kapkoge and Tapmiter[9] near the modern Turbo, some forty miles from the forest, in the days when there were no Europeans there; and another Dorobo spoke of hunting monkeys as far from home as Kaptiyo in North Nandi. Leopard, monkey, and pig are still plentiful. Buffalo still exist to the east, in the direction of Timboroa and Lembus, but they have not been hunted by the Dorobo in recent years; in fact, they say, not since about 1900 when the Kaptiriet age were warriors. Elephant are no more, but they were found in this area, according to some old men, when the Sawe and [illegible] were warriors about 60 to 70 years ago. There are no lion in the forest, but the Dorobo occasionally shot them in the plains. Leopard used to be hunted by organized parties, but this practice has been discontinued for some years, though they are still attacked and killed by individuals if they get aggressive, as in February 1939, when Arap Singoro got his leg torn in a leopard hunt at Sambut. Sometimes traps are made for them, of wire which is picked up on the farms. But trapping leopard is not common, and the trap made by Arap Biamot which caught a leopard in July 1939 was said to be exceptional.

[286] Generally they prefer to hunt a leopard with dogs, as in the old days, when it was first put up by a dog and climbed a tree; the hunter came and shot it.

[853] There is really no close season, as we understand the expression. The trapping season, which due to fact gave the game a respite, was not intended for that purpose, but was for the convenience of the hunters themselves because when it is wet, the forest is difficult to go through, the undergrowth thick, and the ground muddy and slippery; though some have been known to hunt pig there in wet weather.

[411] Dorobo hunting equipment consisted of a bow, poisoned arrows, spears, knife, and dogs. Spears have never been used by the Kipkurerek, and the spear trap reported to be found among some Dorobo does not appear ever to have been one of their methods of killing big game. For trapping, a man needs only something to cut the materials with, and, of course, his skill; if he is to make a pit-trap, he needs something to dig with.

811

[412] [413] Bows are made mainly from the lketet tree (Grewia sp.) and are about 4 ft. in length. A suitable piece of wood is cut and scraped with a knife-blade till it is smooth and of the right thickness. The bow-string, tow, is made of gut from the giant pig, toiset; the gut is stretched, greased and twisted till it becomes sufficiently strong and pliable for use. It is fastened to the ends of the bow as tautly as possible each end; no notch is cut in the wood to receive it. Arrow-shafts are made from the [illegible] and [illegible] trees, as well as from split bamboo; they are smoothed with a knife-blade in the same way as

---

[482] [9] Better known to Europeans as [illegible] and [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

(a) [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]

(b) [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

C. Technique

1. Hunting

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]